HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A SUNRISE REVIEW OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSION.

WHEREAS, H.B. No. (2015) proposes to regulate the law enforcement officer occupation, which is presently unregulated; and

WHEREAS, it is the role of the State to oversee and regulate those professions and occupations that have a significant impact on society; and

WHEREAS, law enforcement is an area where more should be done by the State to provide standards and uniformity statewide; and

WHEREAS, given the immense authority, such as the power to search, arrest, and use deadly force, that the State and counties grant to police, sheriffs, and other law enforcement officers, the State must enact a law that certifies law enforcement officers to ensure the highest standards of professionalism and bring uniformity of standards throughout our islands; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii is the only state in the country without any state-level regulation of law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii is only one of six states that does not establish minimum standards required to be a law enforcement officer and does not have any procedure for revoking a law enforcement officer's certification for serious misconduct; and

WHEREAS, section 26H-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires the Auditor to review proposals to regulate heretofore unregulated professions, vocations, or occupations; and WHEREAS, it is imperative that individuals purporting to be law enforcement officers meet minimum certification standards prior to holding themselves out as law enforcement officers; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the Senate concurring, that the Auditor is respectfully requested to conduct a sunrise review of the law enforcement officer occupation, pursuant to section 26H-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as proposed to be regulated under H.B. No. (2015); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to submit findings and recommendations to the Legislature not later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2016; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor, the Attorney General; the Director of Public Safety; the Director of Transportation; the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources; and the Chiefs of Police of the respective counties.

OFFERED BY:

JAN 2 8 2015